



## Extinguishing a Campfire

A good way to make sure that your campfire is out is to:

1. Dig up all material with a shovel down to permafrost or mineral soil.
2. Pour large amounts of water or soil on the fire and embers and stir with a stick or shovel until the area is cool to the touch.
3. Double-check for remaining heat, especially around the edge of the campfire.



**You are Responsible for Your Campfire  
Until it is Completely Out.**

**To Report a Fire call  
911 or 1-800-237-3633**

**For Current Fire Information Call  
907-356-5511  
or visit  
<http://fire.ak.blm.gov>**



<http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php>



# Safe Campfires in Alaska







## Building a Safe Campfire in Alaska

Every year, campfires cause wildland fires because they are not cared for or completely put out by the campers who made them. Any campfire that you start may be difficult to extinguish; just pouring water on the top of your fire may not be enough. Smoke may not be visible, but roots and other organic matter may still be burning a foot or more underneath the surface.



### Tips for Building a Safe Campfire

- ❑ Locate your campfire in a spot where the fire cannot spread.
- ❑ Use existing campfire sites whenever possible. Many camping areas in the state have established campfire sites such as metal fire rings, grills, or a circle of stones. If none are available, try to select a spot on gravel, sand, or bare soil well away from trees, moss, brush, and dry grass.
- ❑ Using a “fire pan” (like a gold pan) can reduce the chances of your campfire starting a wildland fire.
- ❑ Look around to make sure that the sparks from your fire won’t ignite overhanging branches.
- ❑ Clear away any needles, leaves, twigs, or other things that might allow your fire to spread.
- ❑ Keep enough water nearby to put out the flames if the fire begins to spread.
- ❑ Remember that a safe campfire is one that only burns what you fuel it with.
- ❑ Don’t leave your campfire unattended.
- ❑ Check with the local land owner or manager for additional information about campfire regulations.



Photo by Nathaniel Wilder

Try to identify the safe campfire methods used at this site.